

AGN. NO. _____

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR ZEV YAROSLAVSKY

July 7, 2009

On June 10, 2009, the Sierra Club released the findings of a survey identifying the cost of building permit fees that homeowners would be charged for installing an average size rooftop mounted solar photovoltaic system. The published survey indicated that Los Angeles County charged \$1,143.00 in permit fees for the installation of such systems in its unincorporated areas. According to the survey, this is more expensive than over 90% of the other California jurisdictions cited in the Sierra Club's survey and is twice as expensive as the average jurisdiction's fee.

Recently, the Department of Public Works, Building & Safety Division has determined that the appropriate fee for the review and inspection of residential, rooftop mounted solar photovoltaic systems less than 10 kw in size is \$370.00. Given the importance of encouraging residential solar energy generation, the County should make every effort to inform the public and the authors of the Sierra Club's survey of the current fee.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors instruct the Director of Public Works to accomplish the following within thirty days:

MOTION

MOLINA _____

RIDLEY-THOMAS _____

YAROSLAVSKY _____

ANTONOVICH _____

KNABE _____

- 1) Ensure that the current fee information is fully disseminated by Building and Safety staff to the public, including the appropriate solar energy industry organizations; and,
- 2) Communicate the current fee information to the Sierra Club so that the proper information reaches interested members of the public; and,
- 3) In cooperation with the Acting Director of Regional Planning and other appropriate departments, report back to the Board of Supervisors regarding how unnecessary or duplicative regulatory review processes that add time delays and additional costs to the approval process for solar energy facilities can be eliminated.